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Approved For Release 2006/01/17 : CIA RDP82M00097R001100140038-4

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SS# 9-01039

GUIDED MISSILE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

2 January 1959
1645 EST

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, United States Intelligence Board
SUBJECT : Vehicle Launching from Tyura Tam Missile Test Range

1. Culminating a rather smooth countdown, the Soviets launched a vehicle from the Tyura Tam Missile Test Range [redacted] 25X1 2 January 1959. We believe this was a space vehicle and, from the time and date of launch it was most likely a lunar probe. It was at least partially successful in that it was airborne [redacted]

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[redacted] as late as four hours after launch the vehicle was still airborne and there are no indications that it is not.

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2. At this time, lack of definitive information prevents our reaching a firm conclusion as to the success of the launching beyond its initial stages.

3. A probe can reasonably take up to four days to reach the vicinity of the moon but one and one-half to two days is more likely. It could take the Soviets many hours to determine the degree of success before any announcement could be made. In case of a failure to achieve some spectacular results no Soviet announcement is expected.

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[redacted]
Chairman, GMIC

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MEMO ROUTING SLIP

NAME OR TITLE	INITIALS	CIRCULATE
ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION Room 126, Administration Building	DATE	COORDINATION
2 Central Intelligence Agency		FILE
		INFORMATION
3		NECESSARY ACTION
		NOTE AND RETURN
4		SEE ME
		SIGNATURE
REMARKS		

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FROM NAME OR TITLE **Chairman** DATE

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ORGANIZATION AND LOCATION **Pentagon** TELEPHONE

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DD FORM 95 Replaces DA AGO Form 895, 1 Apr 48, and AFHQ Form 12, 10 Nov 47, which may be used.

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